



Austin City Council MINUTES

For JULY 23 , 1981 - SPECIAL CALLED MEETING - 12:00 NOON

Council Chambers, 301 West Second Street, Austin, Texas

City Council

Carole Keeton McClellan
Mayor

John Treviño, Jr.
Mayor Pro Tem

Council Members
Larry Deuser
Roger Duncan
Richard Goodman
Ron Mullen
Charles E. Urdy

Dan H. Davidson
City Manager

Grace Monroe
City Clerk

Memorandum To:

Mayor McClellan called to order the Special Called Meeting of the Council, noting the absence of Councilmember Goodman. She announced the purpose of the meeting is to receive a new airport proposal. "We have talked for some time about what we refer to as an airport dilemma. We have over the past few years witnessed some 3½ times the normal growth of airports. We have a very fine administration at our airport who has done a tremendous job of handling that growth and we are having to do a lot of things at the airport currently just to keep pace but we have also been looking at what is the long range solution. Our City Manager has been working very diligently along with our Department of Aviation staff over the past few months to go over once again all of the data that has been provided to previous Councils from airport consultants and take a fresh look at what we can do about the situation."

Mr. Dan Davidson addressed Council as follows: "I appreciate this Special Called Meeting because for a number of reasons the timing of at least the introduction of this proposal has become extremely important. As indicated by Mayor McClellan, the city of Austin has not arrived at a satisfactory solution to the provision of an adequate airport facility to serve Austin and central Texas. I feel that, at this point, to have no answer is really an awkward position for the City and for the other governmental entities that would have something to say in the future about safe, convenient airport and airline transportation. My staff and I, over the past four months have gone back over each and every one of the fifty plus sites that have been previously identified as a potential location for a new airport. We have examined the economics of the various proposals in the future. We have concentrated on the matter of safety and the future safety of the people that will utilize air transportation in Austin's future. We have considered the matter of the

City's relationship with Bergstrom Air Force Base, which is extremely important to this community and we have tried to fashion a proposal that we believe answers some of the difficulties and some of the problems experienced by both Bergstrom and the City of Austin. I am sure the City Council would tell each of you here this afternoon that none of us want to have anything to do with a proposal that would jeopardize the City's relations with Bergstrom Air Force Base. Now, we would like you to see a special presentation that we'll use to describe this project, this proposal, this concept."

At this point a slide show of the proposal was presented to Councilmembers and those present in the Council Chamber.

The audio visual presentation showed a concept developed by the Department of Aviation concerning the siting of a new carrier airport for Austin. The concept is entitled "Bergstrom West Airport Development Plan". It calls for construction of two additional parallel runways just west of the existing Bergstrom Air Force Base runway at a slightly different alignment. The easterly runway and the existing Bergstrom runway would be used for Air Force operations. The westerly runway would be used by civilian air carriers. A corollary to this concept involves construction of a new first-class general aviation airport at a convenient, close-in location and closure of Robert Mueller. This concept, if developed, would free approximately 30,000 residents from aircraft noise. Council will discuss presentation of a joint use request to the Air Force for consideration of the Bergstrom West proposal at next Thursday's meeting.

When the slide show was finished, Mr. Davidson stated, "I would like to emphasize at least two points. First, I go back to what I said earlier about the desire on our part and I know the City Council's, to approach this concept working with the United States Air Force and Bergstrom with a cooperative spirit, with the understanding that we want nothing in the way of a concept, even like this, that would jeopardize the excellent relationship that has been built over the years. The second point I would like to bring to the Council's attention has to do with the timing of this proposal. The timing is rather urgent because, as you know, the Chamber of Commerce and others in the community have been working toward the provision of additional jobs through some outstanding industry that has come to this community. One of the premiere, potential industries for location in Austin is now looking at the property we would need on which to construct this facility. We've met with that industry and they have expressed a willingness to cooperate with whatever direction the City might take. I think in fairness to that industrial prospect, it would not be fair to force them to wait an inordinate period of time in order to get the answer and therefore I would ask that if the Council authorizes a submission of this concept that the City do everything within its power to expedite the deliberations and the reviews and to request an early answer as to whether or not this concept would be acceptable to the Department of Defense and to the United States Air Force. I respectfully submit this concept for consideration of the Council and I very much appreciate the opportunity to present it this morning."

Mayor McClellan suggested an item be placed on next week's agenda to prepare a proposal for Bergstrom Air Force Base.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor McClellan announced that Council will convene in a closed or executive session authorized by Section 2, Paragraphs (e), (f) and (g) of Article 6252-17, Texas Revised Civil Statutes annotated; and after such closed or executive session, any final action, decision or vote with regard to any matter considered in the closed or executive session will be made in open session, should such action, decision or vote be necessary.

RECESS AND ADJOURNMENT

Council recessed its Special Called Meeting at 12:40 p.m. for Executive Session, and adjourned its Special Called Meeting at 2:45 p.m.